

Dear U.S. Service Academy Applicant:

Thank you for contacting my office regarding the U.S. Service Academy nomination process. In reference to your most recent inquiry kindly review the information listed below. This is my requisite in propagating your file. **The deadline for all paperwork is November 26, 2018.** Please contact the Academy of your choice via their website or e-mail, which will begin the processing of your **application with them.**



FOLLOWING REQUIREMENTS TO COMPLETE OFFICE FILE

- \_\_\_\_\_ Photo (recent)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Application (furnished by this office)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Your Letter Requesting your Nomination and Biography
- \_\_\_\_\_ Motivation Essay (why you want to attend your choice Academy)
- \_\_\_\_\_ High School Transcripts
- \_\_\_\_\_ Copies of ACT/SAT or PSAT scores
- \_\_\_\_\_ Three (3) Letters of Recommendation (**School, Church and Community Leader**)

Should your interest change, kindly notify my office and the Academy in writing, so that your name can be withdrawn thereby allowing this appointment to other qualified candidates.

If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact my Congressional Aide, Mr. Joshua Luke at 773-948-6223, located at 6245 S. Archer Ave., in Chicago, IL 60638 or [joshua.luke@mail.house.gov](mailto:joshua.luke@mail.house.gov). With warmest regards, I remain

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Daniel Lipinski". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Daniel W. Lipinski  
Member of Congress

Enclosures

## ***Congressional***

This is the primary nomination source for most candidates. Apply directly to your two U.S. Senators and your U.S. Representative.

For your U.S. Representative, address your request to:

The Honorable Daniel W. Lipinski  
U.S. Representative – 3<sup>rd</sup> District – IL  
6245 S. Archer Ave, Chicago, IL 60638  
773-948-6223

For your U.S. Senators, address your requests to:

The Honorable Richard J. Durbin  
U.S. Senator – Illinois  
230 South Dearborn, Suite #3892  
Chicago, IL 60604-1690  
312-353-4952

The Honorable Tammy Duckworth  
U.S. Senator – Illinois  
230 South Dearborn, Suite #3900  
Chicago, IL 60604-1690  
312-886-3506

## ***Other Categories***

Several other authorities also nominate candidates. The Vice President of the United States nominates from the U.S. at large. The deadline for requesting a nomination in the Vice Presidential category is October 31<sup>st</sup>.

You may address your request to:

The Honorable Mike Pence  
Vice President  
The White House  
Washington, D.C. 20501  
Or visit [www.whitehouse.gov/vicepresident](http://www.whitehouse.gov/vicepresident)

## **APPLICANT ACADEMY CHECKLIST**

After reviewing all related academy material, please complete all required forms and provide all requested data.

- \_\_\_\_\_ Recent photo
- \_\_\_\_\_ Application (furnished by this office)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Letter requesting your nomination and your biography
- \_\_\_\_\_ Motivation essay (one page) why you want to attend this Academy
- \_\_\_\_\_ An official high school transcript
- \_\_\_\_\_ Three (3) letters of recommendation (**School, Church and Community Leader**)
- \_\_\_\_\_ U.S. Service Academy Recommendation form (furnished by this office)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Copies of ACT/SAT or PSAT scores

**CANDIDATES WITH INCOMPLETE FILES WHEN NOMINATIONS ARE DUE, CANNOT BE GIVEN CONSIDERATION – DEADLINE NOVEMBER 27, 2018.**

Your responsibility:

- \_\_\_\_\_ Take the SAT/ACT examinations
- \_\_\_\_\_ Request scores be sent to the academies and to Congressman Lipinski's office

Direct ACT/SAT scores to the Office of Congressman Lipinski by completing the Recipient Codes: ACT- #7377 and/or SAT-#1400 to Daniel W. Lipinski, Member of Congress, as score recipient. If you submit more than one set of scores, the higher scores will be counted.

If you are unable to include my office in your original choices for test reports then forward a copy of the report you receive in order to save time and additional fees.

## **APPOINTMENT AND NOMINATION PROCESS**

As a member of Congress, I am afforded the greatest opportunity to nominate young men and women for an appointment to a U.S. Service Academy. Generally, at least one qualified applicant will receive an appointment to each of the academies. Qualifications are based on the whole-person evaluation i.e., character, scholarship, leadership, physical aptitude, medical fitness, goals and motivation.

Since competition for an appointment is so keen, scholastic achievement has been very high in recent years. Class rank in the top 25% is not uncommon among appointees to the service academies.

Remember, it is your responsibility to ensure that all requisite forms are completed and all remaining paperwork provided in a timely manner.

The Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT) or the American College Test (ACT) scores are required of all nominees and repeated if desired in order to achieve a higher score. Nominees financially unable to take the College Board exams can do so free of charge with verification of need from the appropriate high school official. Check the appropriate box on the application whereby a copy of the results will be sent directly to this office.

## **DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION ACADEMIES**

### **U.S. MERCHANT MARINE ACADEMY:**

Nomination for appointment to the Merchant Marine Academy differs slightly from those of the Department of Defense Academies. Qualifications are generally similar whereby the Merchant Marine Academy will accept the nomination of an individual who is 25 years old by June 15<sup>th</sup> of the entry year into the Academy.

Candidates should be in the top 40% of their class to be competitive for appointment.

### **U.S. COAST GUARD ACADEMY:**

The U.S. Coast Guard Academy is the only one of the Armed Forces service academies that offers appointment solely on the basis of an annual nationwide competition; there are no congressional appointments. Visit the application process page for the U.S. Coast Guard Academy <https://www.uscga.edu/apply/> for more information and review the requirements. You can also write to them at:

U.S. Coast Guard Academy  
Director of Admissions  
New London, CT 06320-8103

## **MILITARY ACADEMIES OFFER A UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY-NOMINATIONS**

The military academies desire a geographical distribution of cadets and midshipmen. This is achieved through the congressional nomination and appointment process which assigns a certain number of vacancies at each academy to each Congressional District depending upon graduations or separations (attrition). As the representative of the 3<sup>rd</sup> District, I am allowed to place a maximum of five students at each academy which covers all four grade levels.

The application process to a military academy begins (in high school) in the spring of your junior year or the fall of your senior year. At the time, students may contact my office by letter or telephone expressing their interest in a specific academy. Detailed instructions will be given and prepared packet mailed at that time. The law states that candidates only apply through the congressional office which represents their legal residence. They may apply for more than one academy simultaneously. Since the Coast Guard Academy does not fall under these guidelines, the candidates apply directly.

All required materials, i.e., three letters of recommendations, ACT/SAT scores (check proper code # for a copy forwarded to my office), transcripts, your photo, a short essay and other requirements identified to you in my packet, must be submitted by the deadline date of December 1<sup>st</sup> of that year to one of my district offices. In the packet, I will provide the names and addresses of the Vice President and your two U.S. Senators offices if you choose to ask for a nomination from them also. You should contact the academy of your choice directly via the internet or e-mail to open a file with them. Subsequently, the Academy will then begin their application process. What you submit to my office stays at my office for my records.

In December, I review all application files making my selection based on criteria such as grades, extra-curricular activities, ACT/SAT scores, etc. A slate of ten nominations per vacancy may be submitted, however, it is important to note that the final decision is entirely the responsibility of the academy officials. Individuals whose educational background is inadequate for immediate entrance are considered for admission into the Prep School, which is located on or nearby the Academy grounds. This 10-month period improves but not guarantees the chance for appointment as a cadet.

Upon receipt of my slate of nominees, the academies begin their final evaluation process comprised of a medical exam, a possible interview with a local Admissions Officer and a fitness test which includes minimum requirements for push-ups, etc. Based on these results, the academies select one or more candidates who are best suited for the rigors of military life and challenging academics and are then offered an appointment. Candidates who are well-balanced in athletics, academics and extra-curricular activities are the strongest candidates. I have found many applicants surprised to learn that, even though they are straight "A" students but have never participated in any athletics, they are likely to be rejected. Sports are compulsory and physical fitness is a pre-requisite for all academies.

Normally from March through May, I am notified of the nominees that have been selected for appointment. The academies are required to select at least one from my slates of ten nominees and often choose more. After the nominee has accepted the offer of appointment, they are to report to their selected academy in July. When a candidate receives appointments to more than one academy, careful evaluation must be considered prior to a selection.

As newly appointed cadets and midshipmen report to their respective academy, they will begin an intensive eight-week basic training which includes physical conditioning and military orientation. This training is designed to give them “the necessary foundation to complete four difficult and challenging years of character development.” An 18 year-old who has mastered high school must be ready to start at the very bottom again. A shaved head, a “doolie” uniform, and an impossible schedule of duties reduce everyone to the same level. The academy then helps them build confidence, unquestioned integrity and exemplary leadership skills.

Those not selected, may reapply the following year. It is advised that they attend college for that one year and strengthen their math and science skills. To qualify, a student must be at least 17 years old by July 1<sup>st</sup> but not have passed their 22<sup>nd</sup> birthday on July 1 of their entrance year, not married or supporting any children or parent.

The quality of education at the academies is one of the best in the nation, training them for a career as officers in the military, and leaving with a rank and a guaranteed profession. They must, however, serve six years or more in the military, depending upon their career choice.

In addition, each summer the academy hosts two identical one-week Summer Scientific Seminars for highly qualified Juniors which provide a first-hand look at the academic program and facilities. Applications must be submitted by mid-February and all expenses are incurred by the student. A limited amount of financial assistance is available.

In conclusion, the rigorous disciplined training and well-rounded program is designed to excel, lead and teach the cadets and midshipmen how to overcome stress, fatigue and physical exhaustion - most of all, how to interact and reach people, and how to touch the spirit of the soldiers by demonstrating leadership abilities and a sense of duty. Hopefully, this brief summary will give some insight into the very selective process being applied at all academies.

**Submission Deadline: November 26, 2018**

ACADEMY APPLICANT: PLEASE COMPLETE AND RETURN  
TO:

**U.S. REPRESENTATIVE DANIEL W. LIPINSKI**  
6245 S. Archer Avenue  
Chicago, IL 60638  
773-948-6223

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Academy Preference: \_\_\_\_\_ US Military Academy (Army)  
(Mark in order \_\_\_\_\_ Naval Academy  
desired if more \_\_\_\_\_ Air Force Academy  
than one) \_\_\_\_\_ Merchant Marine Academy  
\_\_\_\_\_ Coast Guard Academy

Have you entered as a pre-candidate at the Academy's website Yes \_\_\_ No\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ SSN \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Parents Daytime Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Temp. Address if Living Away: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

High School: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

Father's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Mother's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

ACT Scores: Math \_\_\_\_\_ SAT Scores: Math \_\_\_\_\_  
English \_\_\_\_\_ Verbal \_\_\_\_\_  
Composite \_\_\_\_\_ Class Rank \_\_\_\_\_ out of \_\_\_\_\_ Students  
Grade Pt Average \_\_\_\_\_ Year Graduating \_\_\_\_\_

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Applicant Signature

Date